



PSIC OFFICE PROJECTS UPDATE Report to SIEC - March 15, 2011

SIEC Projects

Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan Updates

- Interoperable Channels Plan (including Priority Programming Guides) was approved by SIEC on February 15th, 2011
- The SIEC requested that the Channels Plan Working Group address:
 - the incorporation of additional VTAC Tactical Pairs from the NIFOG 1.4 changes, in particular Marine Channel 25 (VTAC17)
 - the monitoring policy for National Calling Channels and assure it lines up with the monitoring policy in the AIRS SOP
- The Workgroup is working on these requests
- We will have an updated Plan to review at the May SIEC meeting.

CASM Protocols

- The SIEC and PSCC have endorsed the use of CASM in Arizona to enable public safety agencies to:
 - Collect, store and visualize data about agencies and their communication assets
 - Identify how agencies use these assets
- The PSIC Office will work with Arizona's CASM administrator to draft:
 - Policies and criteria to determine eligibility for access to the data entry/modification tool in CASM
 - Rules regarding who can change which data and the consequences for breach of these rules
 - How the data will be viewed, when, and by whom
 - How user accounts will be registered
- We will provide draft procedures to the technical and operational workgroups for review and then to the SIEC for approval.
- Access to the CASM data entry/modification tool is being limited until policies are in place

Next Generation AIRS Plan Development

- We have discussed drafting a Next Generation AIRS Plan
- Potential items that may be considered for such a plan include:
 - Establishment of a primary monitoring communication center for each AIRS region to provide active 24/7 coverage
 - Making AIRSAZ operational statewide, including Maricopa County
 - Continual usage testing of AIRS during planned events and exercises throughout Arizona to ensure users are trained and the system is operationally functional
 - Support agency efforts to develop capabilities to provide dispatch services for AIRS incidents and itinerate field users
 - Oversight issues and unresolved AIRS problems reported to the SIEC and action plans for resolution
 - Coverage and/or usage gaps
 - Appropriate additional locations for AIRS assets (e.g., suite/tower locations, etc.)
- **Technical and Operational Workgroup volunteers for this effort are requested.**
- We will work with DPS and the workgroups to develop draft plan recommendations including funding estimates

PSCC/SIEC

Annual Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Updates

- 2011 SCIP Update in process
- Draft version available for review on PSIC Website: <http://www.azgita.gov/psic/SCIP>
- Comments are due by March 24, 2011
- Second review period: April 4 - 15, 2011
- April 19, 2011: PSCC Meeting - SCIP update discussion & action item for approval of updated SCIP

PSIC

Narrowbanding Outreach

- This Grant Cycle is critical in working toward narrowbanding compliance and obtaining necessary equipment or systems upgrades and/or replacements to meet the FCC requirements.
- The PSIC Office will continue to highlight resources and information to assist in preparing for the narrowbanding deadline.
- Two new resources available on the PSIC Office Narrowbanding webpage are:
 - Narrowbanding 101
 - Audio of the FCC VHF/UHF Narrowbanding Workshop conducted by the FCC on 1/26/11.
- Additional website resources are also available through PSIC Site including FCC, OEC, and PSIC presentations at: <http://www.azgita.gov/psic/NARROWBANDING>
- March 10, 2011 National Public Safety Technology Conference on Narrowbanding in California - Attended by Cindy Jensen, AZ Dept. of Corrections

Homeland Security & Related

State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS)

- AZDOHS solicited comments from PSIC and other stakeholders
- AZDOHS featured Interoperability and NIMS ICS components prominently
- The new SHSS was released by AZDOHS on February 28, 2011 and covers three years: 2011-2014
- Stakeholders must use the updated SHSS for FFY 2011 HSPG grant applications

FFY 2011 Department of Homeland Security Grants

- FFY 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) applications due AZDOHS March 28, 2011 no later than 5:00 pm Arizona Time
- Grant applications must address risks identified in the Target Capability Assessment (TCA) and align with the new SHSS
- Communications projects must align with Arizona's SCIP.

Federal Technical Assistance

- Existing:
 - Regional Governance – In Process
 - Planned for later in the year - COML training; COML field day; training and exercise support
- New:
 - SOP-DEV – Phoenix UASI – in process; March 29th meeting planned
 - Fort Mohave Tribe Assessment – in process; Tour of existing facilities – March 29th to 31st
 - COMT – awarded pending Budget approval for 2nd calendar quarter 2011.

NECP Goal Two Assessments

- Event observations completed to date include:
 - 2/5/2011 (La Paz County) – Best in the Desert Race
 - 2/12/2011 (Santa Cruz County) – Tubac Festival of the Arts
 - 3/5/2011 (Yuma County) – Midnight at the Oasis
- Draft After Action Reports (AARs) being completed
- Completion of Assessment Documentation & AARs 60 Days after each event
- For security reasons, PSIC is not publishing information (until after events have taken place)
- Remaining events include: 2 Events April; 4 Events May; 1 Event June; 3 Events July
- Thank you to Observers who have served so far: Michael Todd, Andrew Clark, Jason Roosevelt, Jeremy Knoll, Morgan Hoaglin, David Martin, Jesse Cooper, Steve Campbell, Robert Hollister

FEMA

Emergency Communications Plan (ECP) Process

- ADEM, AZDOHS and PSIC have been coordinating with FEMA to prepare an ECP for Arizona addressing all hazards and all aspects of response, recovery, and public messaging.
- The goal of the plan is to address gaps in state and local communications resources which FEMA would have to bridge in the event of a significant event in Arizona.
- ECP meetings to date – February 17th and March 8th
- The FEMA planning team has:
 - Reviewed existing Arizona plans
 - Contacted organizations with roles in response, recovery, or public messaging.
 - Interviewed appropriate officials to identify: primary, secondary, and backup communications and public messaging resources and challenges
 - Identified mitigation strategies and action plans
- The FEMA planning team will submit the resulting report for review and comment and hopes to have the ECP completed in late March.

Announcement

Communications Unit Integration into NIMS/ICS Workshop

- To further progress in implementing Arizona's SCIP initiatives PSIC is arranging for six one-day workshops for policy makers and practitioners
- The workshops will assist Arizona communities in developing governance structures, policies, and procedures to integrate their communications units into the National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command System (ICS)
- Workshops to mirror the training offered by the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) of Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through its Technical Assistance offering: *TRG-ICS: Communications Unit Integration into the National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command System (ICS) Workshop* (FFY2011 Technical Assistance Catalogue¹, Page 19).
- The workshop will focus on addressing communications-specific needs during an operational period and on the requirements for the communications unit planning process for subsequent operational periods.
- The workshop will give an overview of the ICS for emergency response and support personnel tasked with implementing the NIMS/ICS principles, organization, and functions.
- The workshop will emphasize establishing an organization that allows for interoperable communications among all levels of the organization as well as policies, standards and procedures for supporting interoperable communications.
- Timeline:
 - February - Issued RFQ for Communications Unit Integration into NIMS/ICS Workshops
 - March - Proposals received and reviewed by PSIC Office and workshops scheduled
 - April and May - Conduct 6 workshops throughout the State
- Dates, locations and times will be established shortly
- Additional information will be sent out to all interested parties.
- Funding for these workshops will come from AZDOHS grants currently held by PSIC.

¹ http://www.azgita.gov/psic/meetings/2010/nov16/FFY2011_TA_Catalog.pdf